

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name, and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

SCRANTON, JULY 2, 1900.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

National. President—WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Vice-President—THEODORE ROOSEVELT. State. Congressmen-at-Large—GALUSHA A. GROW, ROBERT H. FOERSTER, Auditor General—E. H. HARDENBERGH. County. Congress—WILLIAM KENNEL, Judge—GEORGE M. WATSON, Sheriff—JOHN H. FELLOWS, Treasurer—J. A. SCRANTON, District Attorney—WILLIAM R. LEWIS, Prothonotary—JOHN COPELAND, Clerk of Courts—THOMAS P. DANIELS, Recorder of Deeds—EMIL BONN, Register of Wills—W. R. DECK, Jury Commissioner—EDWARD B. STURGES.

Legislative. First District—THOMAS J. HENNING, Second District—JOHN SCHUEY, JR., Third District—EDWARD JAMES, JR., Fourth District—P. A. PHILLIPS.

According to Controller Howell's latest financial statement, unpaid judgments are hanging like mill stones around the city's neck to the sum of \$23,000. The city has to pay 6 per cent, or nearly \$5,000 a year, interest on those judgments, and the interest neither sleeps nor eases. What thought is being given to the subject of cancelling these obligations?

Counting the Cost. THE WAR with Spain cost the United States directly, in money withdrawn from the national treasury to meet expenses connected with it, \$388,000,000, according to a memorandum prepared by the chief officer of the division of bookkeeping and warrants of the treasury department. This sum includes the national defense fund, the expenses of the Paris peace commission and the \$20,000,000 paid to Spain for the Philippines, but does not include the pensions growing out of the war nor the cost of pacifying the Philippines, both of which items are yet incomplete. Perhaps in all, half a billion dollars would be a fair estimate of the gross cost of the war to the victorious nation.

The question which suggests itself in connection with this information is, "Was it worth the cost?" And the answer will vary in accordance with varying points of view. The sentimentally inclined will point to the enormous impetus given by the war to American prestige as evidence in favor of an affirmative judgment. This impetus is incalculable, and its money value is beyond appraisal. Men with a more practical turn of mind will weigh in the balance against the half century of expenditure the profits accruing and to come in consequence of new markets opened by the war to American enterprise. This account is hardly appreciable yet, what it will be in years to come no man can say, but it seems destined to be large.

There are other gains, as, for instance, the uplift which it has given to American public opinion; the broadened horizon, the quickened national conscience, the invigorated moral energy of our better people, discernible in every direction. But when all is said, the fact remains that the war came on by virtue of irresistible forces and must be accepted for good or bad as an irrevocable fact. To the let the gaze be now directed: Where is the war history.

Not a Sure Thing.

THOSE WHO believe that the senate for the next six years is bound to be safely Republican must not overlook the fact that the Republican senators will expire on March 3, 1901, of the following: Perkins, of Massachusetts; Mason, of Illinois; Fairbank, of Indiana; Deboe, of Kentucky; Wallingford, of Maryland; Platt, of New York; Pritchard, of North Dakota; Forsaker, of Ohio, and Kyle, of Dakota. Three of these, namely, Perkins, Wallingford and Pritchard, are probably certain to be succeeded by Democrats, which would give a change of votes. But there are uncertainties as to the other successions which would give an incentive to Republican efforts.

In Indiana, as the New York Tribune points out, only one Republican (Benjamin Harrison) was elected to the United States senate between 1875 and 1897, and in that entire period of twenty-two years both senators were held by Democrats for twenty years with only one break of two years' duration. It has been only since March 3, 1899, that both seats have been occupied by Republicans, since Joseph E. McDonald was elected to succeed Daniel Pratt in 1875. From 1869 to 1897, a period of twenty-eight years, one of the Ohio seats in the United States senate was occupied by a Democrat, and from 1876 to 1891 both of them were so occupied. It has been only since the beginning of the present administration that both have been occupied by Republicans since the reconstruction period. From 1875 to 1899 the Democrats held one of the New Jersey seats in the senate, and for four years of them were so held. For the

first time in a quarter of a century Republicans now hold both of the senatorships from that state. From 1861 to 1899 New York was represented in the senate by two Democrats for four years and by one Republican and one Democrat for the rest of the period. From this review of what has been it is easy to perceive that the election of Bryan by votes not meant as an endorsement of his financial views would be very likely to enable him to put those views into law. The country cannot afford such a risk.

If a fire like that at Hoboken had been described in the pages of fiction it would have been considered incredible. That among vessels safe in port and surrounded on three sides by water and on the land side by the protective apparatus of a modern city there should occur, beginning in daylight, such a destruction of property and life as is narrated in our news dispatches is an astonishing commentary upon the uncertainties of life. It is a matter for investigation. Such a scene must never be repeated.

An Offset to Neely.

THE IDEA of bringing Cuba's 1,500 native school teachers to the United States for a period of instruction at Harvard and a personal study of the American people and their ways originated with Alexis E. Frye, the Harvard man who is in charge of Cuba's educational machinery. Some of the teachers have already arrived at Boston and the others are on the way. There are five transports full of them.

When Mr. Frye took hold of the task of forming a public school system in Cuba there was not a school house in the island, as Americans understand the word, nor a text-book nor an educational appliance. More than that, there was not even a general school law, nor a course of study, nor a system of examination of teachers. Everything had to be organized from the ground up. Almost a year after the beginning of the American occupation, while there had been a nominal enrollment of 40,000 pupils, these deficiencies existed unremedied; and the only public instruction worthy of the name was limited to Havana and Santiago. It was at this point that Mr. Frye intervened, drafted a school law, framed a course of study and began to put the tangled ends together. In a letter to the Washington Star, written at Havana by George Reno, some of Mr. Frye's troubles and victories are described in readable fashion.

"At the beginning," says this correspondent, "he met with violent opposition on the part of the Cubans. They fancied that his sole object in establishing a public school system, avowedly based on that of the United States, was to unduly 'Americanize' the Cubans and further annexation. This report ran like wildfire all over the island; the newspapers broke out in virulent and scathing editorials, and not a day passed that General Wood was not requested to discharge this purveyor of pernicious education. Washington was besieged with protests and letters and petitions against the new system poured in from all sources for weeks. During that period Mr. Frye was the most cordially hated American on the island. Then the bubble of opposition collapsed and the reaction set in. Today the flood tide of native enthusiasm over Mr. Frye and his wonderful work is at its height, the present appreciation of him being commensurate with the abuse which was heaped on his head at first. The reversion of popular feeling was natural enough. Mr. Frye simply went steadily ahead, receiving with smiling cheerfulness all who came into his office to denounce him and unfailingly expressing his faith in the Cuban people when they should understand his real motives. Above all, he never turned aside to notice the current of vituperation that filled the columns of the papers all over the island. Today the active work of carrying on and perfecting the new school system is largely in the Cubans' own hands.

"There are now 3,679 schools on the island, with about 140,000 school children enrolled; over half a million dollars' worth of the most modern school furniture has been purchased and sent to the different municipalities; the pupils of the island are furnished with books and all necessary school supplies free of charge; night schools for adults are about to be established, and a plan has been formulated for a teachers' normal school on the island during the summer months for the benefit of those who cannot join the excursion to the United States. Particular stress should be laid upon the part the natives are taking in the work. Thus, the teachers are Cubans, boards of education are made up of Cubans, the alcalde, or mayor, in each town being ex-officio a member of the board, and each municipality conducting its own affairs exclusively. This has contributed to great and pardonable pride on the part, and they are doing all within their power to make it a success. Local ambition in many cases runs high, as instances by the alcalde who went to General Wood and asked that a system of municipal taxation might be established in his town, which, he said, desired to make its own appropriation for the school fund and be self-supporting, instead of being dependent on the island revenues. This request General Wood was obliged to refuse, as the time for municipal taxation has not yet quite arrived, and when it does the system must necessarily be uniform, but the case deserves to go on record."

Mr. Frye is inclined to give the credit for these results to the spontaneous and universal assistance which the Cubans have given since they have learned to understand the import of the system; but it would be unjust not to recognize his share in the work. In the first place he volunteered to serve for five years in the Philippines without pay. When he was sent to Cuba General Brooke wanted to allow him \$5,000 a year salary. He refused to accept more than \$2,500 and this money he regularly contributes to the cause. He has worked night and day with phenomenal energy and patience and is, next to General Wood, the most popular American on the island. In

contrast with Americans of the Neely type the examples of men like Professor Frye merit equal publicity but theirs is the kind of work less likely to be exploited in print.

The necessity which compels our government to solicit from Russia the use of the Russian dock facilities at Port Arthur for the benefit of the wounded Oregon points to the need of a first-class dry dock in the Philippines. At this time, when our relations with Russia are friendly, the Port Arthur dock is fortunately open; but the United States must guard against an indefinite continuation of such dependence.

Colonel Roosevelt's good judgment is shown in his refusal to authorize a Rough Rider campaign in his behalf. The memory of his military exploits will not be forgotten but the position for which he is a candidate is pre-eminently civil and it is fitting that throughout the campaign the panoply of war should retire into the background.

The legislative committee of the state grange recently signaled its conversion to the Wanamaker cause by resolving that the Republican farmers of Pennsylvania must bolt their party ticket this year and support fusion candidates for the legislature. But will they do it?

China's Growing Foreign Trade

The foreign trade of China in 1899 and especially the effect of the railways upon business in the section where the present disturbances are in progress, is discussed in the annual report of the Imperial Customs Service of that country, just received by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics. The following are extracts from the report:

The foreign trade of China during the year 1899 was characterized by a remarkable development, and merchants, both foreign and native, made handsome profits in almost every branch. The political situation, although still unsettled, gave rise to no immediate fears; exchange remained remarkably steady; the rice crop was abundant; the spring weather during the critical period for the silk worms was unusually favorable; and except for a recrudescence of piracy on the West coast there were no disturbances to check the trade. The gratifying result was that the year had all previous records and an advance without precedent. The total trade was valued at \$1,949,520 in 1899, and more than double that of the year 1898. The total trade of the country was also unusually brisk, and the important changes which will be brought about by the extension of railways have already been noted. Newcomers and the old have responded to the stimulus of better means of communication, and the trade at these ports has leaped forward, although the former suffered from a severe outbreak of plague. It is found that immediately trains began to run districts through which there was comparatively little traffic, such as Peking and Pekin, suddenly commenced to hum with life and activity, and there sprang up a new idea of trade which formerly unthought of and impossible for want of cheap transport. The Russian line has been completed as far north as Moudou, and the extension of the Great Wall railway, from Peking to Hankow, makes steady progress. Within six months it is expected that trains will be running as far south as Chingling.

As what was written last year concerning China's foreign trade was criticized in some quarters as too optimistic, it may be well to point out that the report deals with the condition and prospects of the commerce as affecting China's national interests and prosperity, and not from the point of view of the individual foreign merchant who finds the one or two restricted to the amount of competition encountered. It is true that the trade, when the possibilities are considered, is of small dimensions, but the future is distinctly bright, if the results to be expected from the coming railways are calculated. These Chinese, from the highest to the lowest, are traders by instinct and are prompt to take advantage of every opportunity of profit. To form an idea of what future prospects are it is fair to make a comparison with India. The areas of the two empires are almost identical and their products very similar. But China has a larger, a more industrious and more intelligent population; while, on the whole, the country is probably more fertile and possesses greater mineral resources. In the former country trade is assisted by good roads, railways and lightness or absence of taxation; in the latter, at present, it is hampered by directly opposite conditions. The result is that the exports from India are worth three times the exports from China. With equal opportunities, which the building of railways and opening of mines will bring about, this discrepancy should disappear. The year 1899 has shown in a striking manner that an advance in trade when circumstances are propitious. As will be shown later, the year was favorable to exports, and we have as a result to record in each direction a large figure ever reached.

The net value of the import trade was \$1,248,456, being an advance of \$1,000,000 over the year 1898, and the net value of the export trade was \$751,064, being an advance of \$1,000,000 over the year 1898. The increase in the value of the trade was due to the fact that the value of the goods imported was \$1,248,456, and the value of the goods exported was \$751,064. The increase in the value of the trade was due to the fact that the value of the goods imported was \$1,248,456, and the value of the goods exported was \$751,064.

The trade in cotton goods, which has remained practically stationary for three years, made a great advance, the value having risen from \$1,000,000 in 1898 to \$1,500,000 in 1899. It would be tedious to particularize all the gains, which will be found in reference to the table of imports, where it will be seen that every article mentioned, with the exception of grey shirtings (insignificant decrease), T-cloths, P-cloths and blue jeans and English yarn, was imported in quantities exceeding the figures for 1898. As regards the falling off in T-cloths, it is explained that their place is being taken by blue jeans, which are included in our returns under the heading of shirtings. It will be observed that English shirtings showed an advance from \$2,500,000 to \$2,750,000, and the increase must be ascribed partly to "southern" and partly to the higher prices which have prevailed in the United States. American shirtings rose again, from \$4,485,000 to \$5,755,000 pieces.

Speaking generally, the year commenced with small stocks on hand, and demand was brisk. A short cotton crop throughout the world gradually raised prices, but contracts for delivery in China were made so far in advance that importers were able to lay down their goods at prices which realized handsome profits. Towards the close of the year higher prices tended to check business, and it is possible that importers may have to face some delay in disposing of the importations which arrive at dearer rates. The future most worthy of note was the continued advance of American and Japanese goods, the latter especially showing very rapid development. The class of white shirtings now imported is greatly superior to the shirtings formerly imported, and people demanding a better article. The importation of sundries rose in value from \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000, and it is interesting to note that the share in the increase taken by articles showing progress in wealth and a desire for comfort and luxury. Candles, cigars and cigarettes, clocks and watches, flour, window glass, lamps, matches, needles, perfumery, soap, sugar and umbrellas were all purchased more freely. Flour, which is used in the making of

HEARTS MAY WELD A DIADEM.



With the betrothal of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Asturias, sister of the little King of Spain, to Prince Carlos of Bourbon-Caserta comes a vision of by no means remote possibilities. Should anything happen to the boy monarch, this future couple would occupy the Spanish throne as Queen and Prince Consort. Their Royal Highnesses are to have one of the most sumptuous weddings in the annals of European society.

fancy cakes, rose from \$1,712,712 to \$2,385,457. In kerosene oil it will be seen there was a falling off in the importation of the American and Sumatra products, while Russian oil more than doubled in value. Of raw cotton, \$2,306,000 pieces were imported. As the crop during the year was a very short one, owing to wet weather, a much larger importation may be expected during 1900, the price of local cotton having already risen from \$10 to \$12 to over \$15 per picul.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

The Century magazine announces that it has "discovered" (think of the Century doing a thing so rash) a new American romantic writer of great promise, Miss Bertha Brinkley. In the August number of that magazine Miss Brinkley, who is a New Yorker born and bred to literary work, is to open a serial story of "intense and gallant action," to be entitled "The Helmet of Navarre." "The story," we are told, "is laid in Paris during the investment of the city by Henry of Navarre, and occupied but four days of the week preceding Henry's entry to give his formal adherence to the Catholic church. The author's remarkable fertility of invention crowds the story full of plot and sub-plot, natural to the violent times, to the clash of factions and to the rivalry for the hand of a court beauty known as 'The Rose of Lorraine.' One of the characters is the king. The story moves on rapidly from beginning to end, without doubling on its track, making a series of admirable scenes. In brief, 'The Helmet of Navarre' is a fresh, engaging, and well-sustained addition to romantic fiction."

Notwithstanding his active and at times tumultuous life Colonel Roosevelt has been a voluminous author. The following is a list of his literary works and dates of their publication: "Naval War of 1812" (1882), "Life of George Washington" (1885), "Ranch Life and Hunting Trails" (1888), "The Winning of the West" (1890), "History of New York City" (1890), "Essays on Practical Politics" (1892), "The Wilderness Hunter" (1892), "The Winning of the West," vol. III (1894), "American Political Ideas" (1895), "The Rough Riders" (1898), "Life of Oliver Cromwell" (1900). The latter is still unfinished and is now appearing as a serial in Scribner's Magazine. Governor Roosevelt considers "The Winning of the West" his best work.

Even to the chronic theologians of long experience, it may be a surprise to learn that one of the very oldest actors in point of service, still before the public, is Mr. Stuart Robson. Long association with youthful roles, and the freshness and vigor of his portrayals make it difficult for us to realize that his public career extends over nearly half a century. Yet in the July number of Everybody's Magazine appears the first instalment of a series of articles by Mr. Robson in the nature of an autobiography, and entitled "The Memories of Fifty Years." These are articles that will interest not only theatrical people, and people who are interested in the art of acting, but also everyone who likes good stories—telling, new glimpses of history, and new views of famous people.

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Among recent song publications by the Oliver Ditson Company, of Boston, Mass., we note the following: "Dreamy Days," for medium voice in G, by Robert Ashford, a heart song of love, warmth and haunting melody; an issue in D for low voice of Gottschalk's "O Loving Heart, Trust On"; two compositions by Marie von Hammer built around pieces of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "A Rose Once Grew," in D flat for high voice, and "If I Were Thou," for high voice in A flat; "Tell Me, Thou Life and Delight of My Soul," for low voice in F, an adaptation of a French song.

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by a brother doctor while on a visit to the National Capitol at Washington, D. C., some years ago. "I first used the Tablets myself experimentally," says the Illinois doctor, "and derived such benefit from them that I at once adopted them as a part of my medical armamentarium. They have given great satisfaction and in one case where the stomach was infected by large stomach worms, the Tablets destroyed the worms and expelled them, greatly to my surprise and also to the permanent relief of my patient."